GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:438
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2005
MIGRATION FROM BANGLADESH
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are reports of Hindus in Bangladesh migrating to India;

(b) if so, the number of Hindus who have migrated to India during each of the last three years and thereafter till date;

(c) the reasons for their migration; and

(d) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 438 FOR 26.4.2005 RAISED BY SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB REGARDING 'MIGRATION FROM BANGLADESH'.

(a) There are reports of infiltration of Bangladeshi nationals belonging to Hindu community, into the country in spite of checks and control at the international border due to terrain and porous nature of the border.

(b) No such data is being maintained.

(c) The problem of infiltration of Bangladeshi nationals into India has been endemic and various factors like racial, economic, cultural and political have contributed to the influx.

(d) To check illegal migration from Bangladesh, the Government has regularly taken up the issue with the Government of Bangladesh at various fora. Besides, Government has also taken up various measures to curb illegal influx into the country, which inter alia include strengthening of BSF, the border guarding force deployed on the India-Bangladesh borders and equipping them with modern and sophisticated equipment/gadgets; raising of additional battalions of BSF; reduction of gaps between border outposts; intensification of patrolling; accelerated programme of construction of border roads and border fencing; provision of surveillance equipment, etc. State Governments and Union Terrotories have also been directed to enforce the provisions of Foreigners Act (IMDT Act in case of Assam) strictly. The powers under Section 3(2)(c) of the Foreigners Act, 1946 to detect and deport foreign nationals staying in India unauthorisedly have been entrusted to the State Governments and UT Administrations. Besides administrative instructions are also issued to them from time to time to launch special drives to detect the foreign nationals including Bangladeshi nationals staying illegally in the country for their immediate deportation.